

# REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



## RWANDA MINES, PETROLEUM AND GAS BOARD (RMB)

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### Requirements for issuance of a recommendation letter for granting authorization to import, manufacture, transport, trade in and use dynamites in mining and quarry operations

#### 1. Introduction

The Ministerial Order (N° 013/MOJ/AG/19 of 16/07/2019) provides for the requirements for granting the authorization to import, manufacture, transport, trade in and use dynamites in mining and quarry operations.

Rwanda Mines, Petroleum and Gas Board (RMB) as the competent technical authority is required to provide recommendations to the licensing authority (Ministry in charge of Internal Security) to issue the requested permit/license as stipulated in article 44 of Law N° 58/2018 of 13/08/2018 on Mining and Quarry operations.

Explosives/dynamites are one of the major inputs in the mining production cycle that need to be efficiently handled to ensure safety and high productivity. Efficient handling of manufacturing processes, transportation, storage and use at the mine or quarry is critical for safety of the public and sustainability of the mining operations. While considering the role the explosives play in supporting efficient mining operations, one should not ignore the negative side that the misuse of dynamites may cause, specifically in regards to security of the country and its people.

It has been observed that the demand trend of use of explosives is increasing. So, it is imperative that the processes that govern their administration are also reviewed and improved accordingly.

It is on that background that Rwanda Mines, Petroleum and Gas Board (RMB) wishes to inform the general public the criteria for providing the aforementioned recommendations.

## 2. Requirements for granting a recommendation letter

Requirements for the issuance of the aforementioned recommendation letter differ depending on the intended use of explosives. Thus, there are general requirements to all applicants and specific requirements.

### 2.1. General requirements to all applicants

- a local business registration certificate of the applicant;
- a detailed description of the type of dynamites to be engaged in;
- Proof of expertise in handling explosives
- a declaration of the applicant that the information provided is accurate.

### 2.2. Specific requirements for importation

In addition to above general requirements, an applicant for a recommendation letter whose objective is to **import** explosives for mining or quarry activities shall submit:

#### a. A mining or quarry operator

- i. A copy of the license of the authorized mining or quarry operations;
- ii. a document indicating the country of origin of the dynamites;
- iii. a document explaining the intended use of the dynamites including not limited to nature of rocks, blasting plan and blasting patterns, safety measures and environment conservation and communication strategy;
- iv. a document indicating the quantity of dynamites to be imported;
- v. A document indicating the transportation plan and safety measures to be undertaken during transportation;
- vi. A proof of having an appropriate equipment for measuring the quake generated by the explosion;
- vii. a report on the use of any previous authorisation to import dynamites, where applicable.

#### b. A trader

An applicant for a recommendation letter whose objective is to import explosives as a trading business activity shall submit the following:

- i. Up to date License to Trade in explosives
- ii. Annual procurement plan
- iii. A document indicating the transportation plan
- iv. a document indicating the quantity of dynamites to be imported
- v. a document indicating the country of origin of the dynamites
- vi. Report showing the trading and distribution of explosives from the previous approval for importation of explosives.

### 2.3. Specific requirements for usage

In addition to the general requirements, an applicant for a recommendation letter whose objective is to **use** explosives shall submit:

- i. A copy of a valid license of mining or quarrying;
- ii. a copy of a contract with a qualified person for handling of explosives;
- iii. A copy of blasting certificate of the qualified person for handling of explosives;
- iv. A document explaining the intended use of the dynamites including not limited to nature of rocks, blasting plan and blasting patterns, and environment conservation;
- v. A proof of having an appropriate equipment for measuring the quake generated by the explosion.
- vi. Safety plan and communication strategy for protecting communities and properties around the mine or quarry during the blasting period.

### 2.4. Specific requirements for storing

In addition to the general requirements, an applicant for a recommendation letter whose objective is to **store** dynamites as a business activity or for usage shall submit:

- i. Design of the facility for storage of explosives in line with the requirements of the regulations. The design should indicate clearly the types of explosives to be stored, separation of explosives and detonators, safety bunds (height, width and construction materials that conform to international standards), fencing, security and signage;
- ii. Safety plan for safeguarding the storage facilities: (the plan should indicate at least protection for fire, First Aid Kits and Fire extinguishers and procedures).
- iii. Safety plan for protecting communities and properties around the storage facility in line with the requirements of the regulations. The plan should include signages to be posted around the storage area.
- iv. A detailed description of the type of dynamites to be stored;
- v. A detailed map to a scale of not less than 1: 1,000 of the area of the proposed magazine including a buffer for the protection of the surrounding communities.
- vi. Proof that an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) of the area proposed for storage of explosives for storage has been undertaken and approved by the relevant authority

### 2.5. Specific requirements for trading

In addition to the general requirements, an applicant for a recommendation letter whose objective is to **trade** in dynamites as a business activity shall submit:

- i. A business plan of the project with details of the type of explosives to engage in;
- ii. A detailed map to a scale of not less than 1: 1,000 of the area of the proposed magazine for storing the explosives for trading purpose including a buffer for the protection of the surrounding communities and/or properties;
- iii. Proof that an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) of the area proposed for storage of explosives for trading purposes has been undertaken and approved by the relevant authority;
- iv. Proof of Investment Capacity: - The applicant should provide proof of the sources of funds for investment in trading in explosives. The proof can be in terms of bank statement, loan agreement with a financial institution, financial support from a joint-venture partner, and any other form of proof of project financing.
- v. Design of the facility for storage of explosives in line with the requirements of the regulations. The design should indicate clearly the types of explosives to be stored, separation of explosives and detonators, safety bunds (height, width and construction materials that conform to international standards), fencing, security and signage.
- vi. A document indicating the transportation plan and safety measures to be undertaken during transportation

## 2.6. Specific requirements for manufacturing

In addition to the general requirements, an applicant for a recommendation letter whose objective is to **manufacture** explosives as a business activity shall submit:

- i. A business plan of the project with details of the type of explosives to engage in, but not limited to mine site manufacturing. Explosives factory, mobile manufacturing unit, etc
- ii. A detailed map to a scale of not less than 1: 1,000 of the area of the proposed magazine for storing manufactured explosives including a buffer for the protection of the surrounding communities and/or properties.
- iii. Design of the facility for storage of explosives in line with the requirements of the regulations. The design should indicate clearly the types of explosives to be stored, separation of explosives and detonators, safety bunds (height, width and construction materials that conform to international standards), fencing, security and signage;
- iv. Proof that an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) of the area proposed for storage of explosives for trade has been undertaken and approved by the relevant authority;
- v. Proof of Investment Capacity: - The applicant should provide proof of the sources of funds for investment in development of the manufacturing facilities for explosives. The proof can be in terms of bank statement, loan agreement with a financial institution, financial support from a joint-venture partner, and any other form of proof of project financing.

- vi. A document indicating the transportation plan and safety measures to be undertaken during transportation of the ingredients classified as explosive or transportation of the finished products from factory to storage facility or to Clients.

### **3. Report on the use of explosives**

A report on the use of the explosive must clearly indicate:

- Type and amount of dynamites used and those remaining;
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- Powder factor (specific charge or blasting ratio);
- Levels of Ground vibrations and noise caused by blasting operations ;
- Any incidences related to handling and use of dynamites;
- Any recorded and/or reported complaints from the community.

Done at Kigali, on.../.../2021

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**Chief Executive Officer & Cabinet Member**